Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 120679 TOSEC 010251

64
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 (ISO) R

DRAFTED BY NEA/EGY:LWSEMAKIS:PM
APPROVED BY NEA:SSOBER
PM/SAS:DNIEMI
S/S: LCJOHNSTONE
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O 230111Z MAY 75 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 120679 TOSEC 010251

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, XF

SUBJECT: ACTION MEMORANDUM - ARAB LEAGUE REQUEST FOR U.S.
ASSISTANCE IN MILITARY FIELD
(S/S NO. 7510578))

FOR SISCO FROM SOBERTHROUGH ATHERTON

1. THE PROBLEM.

EGYPTIAN AIR VICE MARSHAL EL-MESSEIRY RECENTLY ASKED GEN.
GUAY IN CAIRO TO ASCERTAIN THE POSSIBLE USG REACTION TO A
REQUEST FROM THE ARAB LEAGUE FOR ASSISTANCE IN ESTABLISHING
AN AERONAUTICAL INDUSTRY TO BUILD MILITARY AIRCRAFT SOME-
WHERE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. EL-MESSEIRY'S APPROACH WAS VERY
LOW KEY, AND GEN. GUAY PROMISED TO FORWARD THE REQUEST AND
ADVISE EL-MESSEIRY OF THE RESULTS.

WE HAVE PREPARED A RESPONSE TO EMBASSY CAIRO FOR YOUR
APPROVAL NOTING THE SENSITIVE NATURE OF THIS ISSUE AND IN-
STRUCTING GUAY NOT TO ENGAGE IN FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ON THIS
SECRET

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PAGE 02 STATE 120679 TOSEC 010251

SUBJECT. SHOULD EL-MESSEIRY RAISE IT AGAIN, GUAY IS IN-

STRUCTED TO REMIND EL-MESSEIRY THAT WE ARE IN THE MIDST OF
OUR POLICY REASSESSMENT AND THAT CONSIDERATION OF SUCH A
REQUEST CAN ONLY BE GIVEN AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE RE-
ASSESSMENT.
2. RECOMMENDATION.

THAT YOU TRANSMIT THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO CAIRO. BEGIN
MESSAGE. ISSUE RAISED BY EL-MESSEIRY IS, OF COURSE, SEN-
SITIVE AND WE ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO INDICATE THE U.S.
ATTITUDE ON SUCH MATTERS AT THIS TIME. IF POSSIBLE,
THEREFORE, WOULD PREFER THAT DAO NOT RPT NOT ENGAGE IN
FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THIS ISSUE WITH EL-MESSEIRY. SHOULD
MATTER BE RAISED BY EL-MESSEIRY AGAIN, HOWEVER, DAO SHOULD
NOTE THAT USG IS IN THE MIDST OF A POLICY REASSESSMENT AND
THAT SUCH AN ARAB LEAGUE REQUEST CAN ONLY BE GIVEN CON-
SIDERATION AT CONCLUSION OF THE REASSESSMENT. END MESSAGE.

CLEARANCE: PM/SAS - MR. NIEMI   DOD/ISA - COL. PIANKA

 INGERSOLL

   SECRET

NNN

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